



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

MAY 29 2019

OFFICE OF
GENERAL COUNSEL

Ms. Emma Best
MuckRock News
411A Highland Avenue
Somerville, MA 02144

RE: Request Number EPA-HQ-2019-005923

Dear Ms. Best:

This letter concerns the above-referenced Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request, received by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Freedom of Information Office in which you are seeking:

"I seek any and all documents in the agency's possession that pertain to the WikiLeaks website or organization from January 2006 to the present date, including but not limited to emails, memos, notes, briefings, reports and other documents related to, mentioning or generated as a result of:

- * guidance and instructions for employees regarding visiting the website or otherwise reading or learning about it in the news
- * internal reactions to the website's existence and disclosures
- * damage reports regarding the website and its disclosures
- * efforts to identify, investigate and/or mitigate potential leaks to the website
- * efforts to identify, investigate and/or mitigate potential unauthorized viewing of the website or news reports analyzing it and/or its contents."

Your request does not reasonably describe the records you are seeking in a way that will permit EPA employees to identify and locate them. The EPA's FOIA regulations explain:

"Whenever possible, your request should include specific information about each record

sought, such as the title or name, author, recipient, and subject matter. If known, you should include any file designations or descriptions for the records that you want. The more specific you are about the records or type of records that you want, the more likely

EPA will be able to identify and locate records responsive to your request.” 40 C.F.R. § 2.102(c).

We would like to provide you the opportunity to clarify the records that you are seeking so that EPA can process your request. As indicated in 40 C.F.R. § 2.102(c), please include any specific information about the records you seek, including program, region, names of people to search, or a more detailed description of the records’ subject matter. Additionally, the FOIA does not require federal agencies to respond to questions so please consider that as you are modifying your request.

Since you have not provided a telephone number we are unable to connect with you directly. Please contact Wendy Schumacher via email at schumacher.wendy@epa.gov or (202) 566-2513 with your clarification or I can be reached at (202) 566-1667 if you have any questions concerning this letter. If we do not hear back from you by June 18, 2019, we will administratively close your request.

Cordially,



Larry F. Gottesman
Agency FOIA Officer